

City Works

May-June 2005



www.BurlingtonNC.gov

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

Burlington Plans Government Academy for City Residents

One exciting semester of Burlington's Government Academy (BGA) is scheduled in 2005. The class embarks on a fascinating, 10-week curriculum, which includes behind-the-scenes tours of City departments, exciting field demonstrations and exercises, and much more.

Burlington Government Academy unravels the mystery behind City government as BGA students go behind the scenes and talk face to face with City administrators and decision-makers. Each class spotlights a different area of City government and profiles the processes involved with providing services to nearly 50,000 residents.

Imagine trying to schedule athletic events for over 2,000 participants per season. Try your hand at balancing a City budget. Listen in on the drama of 9-1-1 calls. Go behind the scenes of a fire investigation. See how Animal Services promotes responsible pet ownership and adoptions. Witness how Burlington leaves are turned into compost. This is only a sampling of what you will encounter!

BGA students talk to the experts—City staff who know their operations inside and out. The City becomes your campus, as students head out of the classroom and into

the field with activities that offer a real insight into all the different ways Burlington City government serves its citizens every day.

Scheduled to begin September 8 and run through November 10, 2005, BGA promises to be a session chocked full of valuable information. The session fee is \$25.00 and is open to City of Burlington residents 18 years of age or older. Applications will be processed on a first-come first-serve basis.

Each 10-week session meets from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Thursday evenings and engages students in a wide array of discussions, field activities and fascinating discovery. For more information contact Jennifer Smith at 222-5076.

Outdoor Activities

Spring is finally here and many of us will turn our attention to gardening, yard work, and other outdoor activities. City of Burlington residents are blessed to have an abundant water supply. Fortunately, the City has not had to implement water restrictions that many other communities face during these months. Enjoy your spring and summer!

BURLINGTON CAROUSEL FESTIVAL A Festival of Many Memories



Another year has come and gone and the Burlington Carousel Festival becomes a special weekend in the hearts of many throughout the Southeast. From the artistic gem, the Dentzel Menagerie Carousel located in Burlington's very own City Park to the great array of Carousel artists and craftsman as well as national entertainment, the festival continues to offer families and visitors a memory that will last forever. Each year the City comes together to celebrate the Carousel by hosting the Annual Carousel Festival. Bring a chair and enjoy the sites and sounds of the local music and entertainment. The main stage area will feature national recording artists on Sunday, September 18th, as well as many local and regional favorites throughout the weekend. (Seven years ago the festival played host to the Dixie Chicks, exactly one week before they

received the Country Music Television award for Best New Artist of the Year!) And no one can forget the wonderful aroma of the food court, provided by local non-profit agencies from right here within the community. With the avid community support of local businesses such as MIDCAROLINA Bank, the festival has grown to be one of the Southeast's most renowned and respected events. Please come out September 17th and 18th, 2005, for a visit to one of Burlington's most exciting events, the *Burlington Carousel Festival*.

Festival Hours: Saturday, September 17th 10:00am-6:00pm and Sunday, September 18th 1:00pm-6:00pm

SMOKE DETECTORS AVAILABLE

A properly functioning smoke detector reduces the risk of death in a residential fire by approximately 50%. Every residence should be equipped with at least one smoke detector on each level.

The Burlington Fire Department offers assistance for those in need of obtaining smoke detectors. If you own your own home, live within the City limits and are in need of a smoke detector, please call 229-3133 and the City will install one for you.

GET CONNECTED

Remember to visit the City of Burlington's website at www.BurlingtonNC.gov and get connected using the *Notify Me* feature to receive information about your City!



City of Burlington Sanitation Division Holiday Schedule

May – December 2005

Independence Day Monday, July 4, 2005

Will collect Monday route on Tuesday, July 5.
Will collect Tuesday route on Wednesday, July 6.
No recycling collection change.

Labor Day Monday, September 5, 2005

Will collect Monday route on Tuesday, September 6.
Will collect Tuesday route on Wednesday, September 7.
No recycling collection change.

Thanksgiving Thursday & Fri., November 24 & 25, 2005

Will collect Thursday route on Wednesday, November 23.
Will collect Friday route on Wednesday, November 23.
No yard waste or bulk trash collection on Thursday & Friday routes.
Recycling on Thursday route will be collected on Friday.
Recycling on Friday route will be collected on Friday—finishing on Saturday if necessary.

Christmas Friday & Monday, December 23 & 26, 2005

Will collect Thursday route on Wednesday, December 21
Will collect Friday route on Thursday, December 22
Will collect Monday route on Tuesday, December 27.
Will collect Tuesday route on Wednesday, December 28.
No yard waste or bulk trash collection the week of December 26.
No recycling collection change.

City Has Low Tax Burden

The John Locke Foundation in Raleigh reports that the City of Burlington's tax burden is one of the lowest in the state. Policy analysts Michael Lowrey and Erik Root coauthored the study, which used the most recent data available from the State Treasurer, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis to construct rankings of local government cost on a per-person basis — as well as for counties, a share-of-income basis. The City is ranked 21 out of 25. Out of 24 cities with at least 25,000 resident Hickory, Durham, Wilmington, Cary, and High Point rounded out the top six in combined costs per person. Gastonia, Rocky Mount, Kannapolis, Burlington, Goldsboro, and Jacksonville ranked lowest in taxes and fees. Military factors in two of the above are obvious reasons for their low tax burdens. This report is based on 2002-2003 budget figures. The report states that services ranging from garbage pick-up to recreation programs to a senior center make government more expensive but are often things that people want. The City of Burlington provides these services while maintaining a low tax burden. The City of Burlington has the only full-time fire department in the county. Services should be compared to what the tax rate is. The amount of money that you spend on taxes should balance out the services that are being provided.

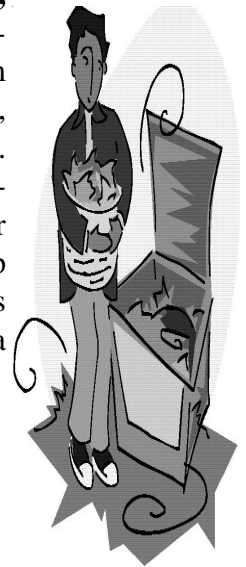
Fireworks
July 3, 2005
City Park
9:00 p.m.

CITY OF BURLINGTON "COMPOGRO"

South Burlington Wastewater Treatment Plant, Boywood Rd., Graham, Now available!! Stabilized, organic compost made from wastewater treatment plant solids, leaves and woody plant materials. Meets all EPA 40CFR503 regulations for Class A compost. For questions or to arrange for pickup Mon-Fri call 570-6138. Trucks picking up compost must have a cover. The cost is as follows:

Under 10 yards	\$9 per yard
10-30 yards	\$8 per yard
Over 30 yards	\$7.00 per yard

Cash or check must be for exact amount. The City will deliver compost over 10 yards within 10 miles for a \$25 delivery fee per truck. **AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.**





Upcoming Events

For more details on upcoming events, visit our website - www.BurlingtonNC.gov



Super Bowl Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, February 6, 2005

3:00 p.m.

Thataways Teen Center

Call 229-3148 for information

Lawn Care Day

Saturday, March 5, 2005

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thataways Teen Center

Call 229-3148 for information



Soccer Registration

January 3-28, 2005

Swim Lessons

Session I

January 10 – February 10, 2005

Morning and evening classes available. Please call for information 222-5043.



Easter Egg Hunt

March 26, 2005

10:00a.m.

City Park

For other recreation events visit our website and view the City of Burlington Leisure Living Guide.

www.burlingtonNC.gov



Garbage and Recyclables Collection



New Year's Day

Monday, January 3, 2005

Will collect Monday route on Tuesday, January 4.

Will collect Tuesday route on Wednesday, January 5.

No recycling collection change.

Dr. King's Birthday Monday, January 17, 2005

Will collect Monday route on Tuesday, January 18.

Will collect Tuesday route on January 19.

No recycling collection change.

Easter Monday Monday, March 28, 2005

Will collect Monday route on Tuesday, March 29.

Will collect Tuesday route on Wednesday, March 30.

CityWorks is published quarterly for Burlington City residents to provide news of municipal affairs by the Office of Public Information, City of Burlington, P.O. Box 1358, Burlington, NC 27216-1358, 336-222-5076.

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Comments and questions are welcomed.

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***City of Burlington
Customer Service Division
Post Office Box 1358
Burlington, North Carolina 27216-1358***

Or you may return your completed form in person to the

***Customer Service Division
Room 207, Municipal Building
425 South Lexington Avenue***

Should you have questions regarding this service, please call the Customer Service Division at 336-222-5100.

